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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Conf. #: 1446 Page 1 of 1 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER** DOCUMENT NO. DATE NAME OF INVENTOR CLASS **SUBCLASS** FILING DATE INITIALS **APPROPRIATE** 1 6,228,412B1 5/01 Groux et al. 2 5,345,781 9/94 Fels et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER** DOCUMENT NO. DATE COUNTRY CLASS SUBCLASS **TRANSLATION** INITIALS YES OR NO 3 58/020,156 2/83 Japan Yes 4 WO 96/29896 10/96 PCT PCT 5 WO 96/11586 4/96 6 WO 96/39878 12/96 PCT 7 WO 97/02343 1/97 **PCT** OTHER DOCUMENTS 8 Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 58040045 A, date of publication 3/83. Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication No. 08098653 A, date of publication 4/96 **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED

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